

From The Regions



Goldie Neltt

45 year anniversary

A plethora of experiences fill her career

K mart 3279, Burton, MI — "On January 15, 1982, Goldie M. Neltt celebrated 45 years of service with the K mart Corporation," reports Sue Bovine. Her management team and fellow employees at 3279 shared her anniversary with her at a breakfast, where she was given a beautiful plant.

Goldie started with K mart at Kresge 12 in downtown Flint, at 25 cents an hour, working in the toy and book department. She became office manager in 1960 after being the floor supervisor, the lingerie buyer, the receiving clerk and one of the general office employees.

Goldie clearly remembers Sebastian Kresge visiting the downtown store in the 1930's and 1940's. And, she was fortunate enough to be able to shake his hand. She says Mr. Kresge would sometimes be dropped off at the front door by his chauffeur, walk through the main sales floor, then back out the front door, to be whisked away in his car. She giggles while boasting that the store manager sometimes didn't get to see him, but she did!

In 1962, Goldie also remembers taking one of the two buses full of Kresge 12 employees to observe the very first K mart store before it was viewed by the general public.

In 1972 and 1973, Goldie taught classes in office procedure to potential K mart managers. She comments how proud she is now that some of these people have hit the top. Goldie has been under 19 managers in her 45 years of service.

In 1978, when downtown Kresge closed, after 50 years in business, we were fortunate to have Goldie transfer to our store in Burton, where she has been our main invoice clerk. Her cheery smile really makes our day when we're down — it seems Goldie is always up. She is often teased and

able to fit in with any age group in style.

Her hobby is traveling, she says: "Until I run out of money." She's been to every state in the U.S., including Hawaii and Alaska. She belongs to the NOMADS travel club and has been a part of their many travels to Greece, Portugal, Italy, Virgin Islands, Haiti, Puerto Rico, the Orient and her favorite, Ireland. She still wants to visit England, Scotland, Switzerland, and Australia.

Goldie's favorite food is peanut butter and her favorite place to eat is "the Golden Arches," (McDonalds). She even made it one of her stops in Greece!

Goldie lives alone in Davison. She was widowed in 1975 after 42 years of marriage. She has one son, a daughter-in-law and grandson. Goldie came from a family of 10 children and could write a book about her life.

She started a scrapbook one day about K mart and has continued to fill it ever since. She intends to display it when she retires.

Student hosting TV program

K mart 7211, Radcliff, KY — Employee John Stewart is a senior at North Hardin High School and is hosting a county school system TV program.

John's class has produced several segments called *Topics* for cable station 12 which aired for the first time in late March. Twenty different programs are planned with repeats during the summer.

Areas covered on the program are the metric system, a story explaining HCE-TV which airs *Topics* and an examination of job possibilities in the newspaper industry featuring a tour of local newspaper *The News-Enterprise*.

Runner trains hard for Boston Marathon

K mart 3902, Niles, OH — "The entire store applauded the efforts of Store Manager J.E. Gahan, as he trained for the Boston Marathon," reports Carol Gerner.

Mr. Gahan has been an avid runner for the past 13 years. His most recent event was the North Park Marathon in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he finished in three hours and 53 minutes despite the adverse track conditions.

To date, his best time was in the 1980 Cleveland Marathon with a finishing time of three hours, 33 minutes. He is currently running 40 miles per week, increasing to 55 weekly miles, in hopes that he will be able to qualify for the famous Boston race to be held April 19th.

Qualifying time for a man in the 40 to 49 year age bracket is three hours, 10 minutes. In the event he doesn't qualify this year, he has set his sights on 1983. No matter how Boston goes, Mr. Gahan has already committed to run in May at the Erie, Pennsylvania Marathon. A former school teacher, who has been with K mart since 1969, Mr. Gahan has a large cheering section wherever he runs.

Farm safety seminar

K mart 9776, New Lebanon, OH — The Ohio State University Extension Service held a farm safety rescue seminar in Germantown, Ohio.

This was the first seminar of this nature to be held in Montgomery county for the farmers and citizens.

Among the instructors of K mart classes is Rita Warner a state certified paramedic-fire fighter and employee at 9776.

Rita participated in instructing the public on the proper procedures of

contacting a rescue squad. She also explained the importance of informing them at the proper time and telling them the complete situation so the necessary equipment and medical supplies can be transported and administered as soon as possible.

Flood damaged city needs all the help it can get

Fort Wayne Distribution Center, Fort Wayne, IN — Brenda Bowman reports that following a record snowfall of over 70 inches this past winter, the City of Fort Wayne experienced the worst flood since 1913.

If the weatherperson's predictions are accurate, this may very well become the worst flood in this city's history. Thousands of residents were forced to leave their homes to escape the high flood waters.

The Red Cross and Salvation Army sent out requests for food and clothing. The employees of the Fort Wayne Distribution Center responded by donating their time and money to aid the flood victims. Many of the employees volunteered their time by filling sandbags or assisting in any way they could in this emergency. Eight families from the center have had heavy flood damage to their homes. The 736 distribution employees collected \$2,200 to aid flood victims.

President Reagan visited the city to inspect the damage. After viewing Fort Wayne from the air and touring some of the evacuation centers, the President declared Fort Wayne a disaster area. President Reagan borrowed a pair of boots from an area farmer and helped the workers carry sandbags to prevent the flood waters from going farther.



Flood victims paddle down a residential street in Ft. Wayne, IN